

Amendments To The Drawings:

Please replace the drawing sheet containing FIGS. 1-4 with the attached replacement drawing sheet which has been modified merely to add the reference character 60 to identify the protrusion of the second pivot member 50 of the tumbler 35.

Remarks

1. The examiner objected to the drawings under 37 C.F.R. 1.83(a) for not showing every feature of the invention specified in the claims. In particular, the examiner cited claim 10 wherein only the first pivot member would prevent further movement of the tumbler, and requested corrected drawing sheets, without the addition of new matter, to show the feature. Claim 10 has been modified so that further movement of the tumbler is not prevented only by the first pivot member, therefore the drawings were not modified because of claim 10.

2. The examiner objected to claims 10-14 because of informalities. In particular, the examiner stated that claim 10 contained the limitations of claims 11 and 13, so that the latter two claims should be cancelled. Claim 10, as well as claims 11 and 13 have been herein modified such that claims 11 and 13 do not contain limitations found within claim 10, and are in fact dependent claims. The examiner further suggested that in line one of claim 12 that "11" be changed to "10" and that in line one of claim 14 that "13" be changed to "12." Both of the examiner's suggestions are herein incorporated.

3. The examiner rejected claims 10-18 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement, because the claimed subject matter was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventors had possession of the claimed invention. In particular, the examiner pointed to the claim language that provides for only the first pivot member preventing further travel of the tumbler, when, as added by portions of claims 11 and 13, the second pivot member hitting the edge of the bottom plate is also needed to prevent further tumbler motion, and is enabled by lines 17-22 of page 9 in the specification. Those portions of claims 11 and 13 have been moved to claim 10, and claims 11 and 13 have undergone further modification to more aptly describe dependent features. Claim 10 now contains all the elements of the allowed claim 19, and should therefore, along with its dependent claims, also be in condition for allowance.

4. Lastly, the examiner rejected claims 1-3 and 5-9 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,248,174 to Matz in view of U.S. Patent No. 1,656,818 to Dillon. Claim 1 has been modified to reflect the vent stop illustrated by Figure 4, where further travel of the tumbler **35** is prevented by the first pivot member **49** of the tumbler contacting the top surface of the pivot means, and with the second pivot member **50** of the tumbler contacting the bottom surface of the pivot means- pin 45. This combination of multiple contact surfaces of the tumbler striking the pivot means to create a moment and moment arm to counter the biasing of spring **44** to limit tumbler travel is not disclosed by or obvious from Matz, nor even from Matz in view of Dillon. As such, the revised claim 1 and its dependent claims 2-3, and 5-9 should now be

patentable over the cited references.

This approach for limiting further travel of the vent stop was previously described by claim 1 and illustrated by Figures 1 and 4 of the application. However, the protrusion on the second pivot member 50 was not identified by a reference character, and the prior claim language was not adequately descriptive. A revised drawing sheet which merely adds reference character 60 for the protrusion on the second pivot member 50 is herein submitted. Also, the language of claim 1 is modified to more accurately describe the invention where further travel of the tumbler 35 is prevented by contact between pin 45 and both the first and second pivot members.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, applicant's specification, claims, and figures should be in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

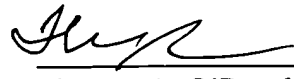


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that the foregoing Response was mailed by first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to the Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 8th day of July, 2008.



Thomas A. O'Rourke